

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 04630 231740Z

70

ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 OMB-01 /058 W
----- 039697

R 231704Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3986

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 4630

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BPRO

SUBJECT: FCIA CREDIT INSURANCE REQUEST FOR SALE OF GROVE MOBIL
HYDRAULIC CRANES TO SOCIETE D'ETUDE ET DE RATIONALIZATION
DE TRAVAUX MINIER (SERTRA)

REF: STATE 92312

1. SOCIETE GENERALE AFFILIATE POUDRERIES REUNIES DE
BELGIQUE (PRB) OWNS 66 PCT OF SERTRA, WHICH HAS AUTHORIZED
CAPITAL OF 51.7 MILLION BF, NET WORTH OF 164 MILLION BF, AND
SALES VOLUME OF 800 MILLION BF (ONE DOLLAR EQUALS 35BF). SERTREX,
FORMERLY SERTRA CONGO, IS SUBSIDIARY OF SERTRA. IT
IS 75 PCT OWNED BY SERTRA AND 25 PCT BY GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE.
SERTRA AND SERTREX ARE DEALERS IN MINING AND OTHER MACHINERY
AND EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING GROVE CRANES. OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE CONSIST
OF DISTRIBUTING TO CUSTOMERS, PRIMARILY STATE-OWNED
COPPER COMPANY, GECAMINES. SERTRA'S CAPITAL IN SERTREX
IS KEPT TO MINIMUM: 5,000 ZAIRES (\$10,000). INVOICING
FOR COMBINED OPERATIONS OF SERTRA AND SERTREX
IN ZAIRE AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 130 MILLION BF ANNUALLY.

2. EMBASSY SUBMITTED WTDR ON SERTRA ON APRIL 11 (BRUSSELS 3241).
REPUTATION OF COMPANY IS EXCELLENT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 04630 231740Z

WE PERCEIVE NO REASON EXIM SHOULD NOT CONSIDER REQUEST IN

REFTEL.

3. DELAY IN OUR REPLY TO REFTEL, HOWEVER, IS DUE TO
CONFUSION AT SERTRA AS TO WHICH SALE OF GROVE CRANES WOULD
BE COVERED BY PROPOSED CREDIT INSURANCE. SERTRA OFFICER CONCERNED
WITH ZAIRE, VANDER HEYDEN,
TOLD US ONLY PENDING SALE HE KNEW OF WHICH WAS OF APPROXIMATE
AMOUNT MENTIONED IN REFTEL IS POSSIBLE SALE OF SIX OR
SEVEN GROVE CRANES TO BELGIAN CONTRACTOR FOR USE IN
CONSTRUCTION OF INGA-SHABA POWER TRANSMISSION LINE IN
ZAIRE AND IN EXPANSION OF COPPER CONCENTRATOR AND
SMELTING PLANT AT KOLWEZI. VAN DER HEYDEN SAID THIS SALE
IS STILL IN DISCUSSION STAGE AND NOT YET CONCLUDED.
HE DID NOT THINK IT WAS SALE REFERRED TO IN REFTEL.
(HE DECLINED TO NAME CONTRACTOR, AT LATTER'S REQUEST,
SINCE THAT FIRM IS IN COMPETITION WITH AMERICAN CONTRACTORS IN
ZAIRE.) THUS NEITHER EMBASSY
NOR SERTRA CAN PROVIDE PRECISE INFORMATION ON SALE OF
CRANES WITHOUT CLARIFICATION FROM GROVE. FIRESTONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRUSSE04630
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-0840
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750520/aaaaarsc.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION XMB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 92312
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FCIA CREDIT INSURANCE REQUEST FOR SALE OF GROVE MOBIL HYDRAULIC CRANES TO SOCIETE D'ETUDE ET DE RATIONALIZATION
TAGS: BPRO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006